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Atty. Docket No.: P69488US0

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-16 (Canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) A male and female connector system for interconnecting reinforcing elements embedded in a pair of mating concrete structures, each of said concrete structures having an upper surface and a side edge, said connector system comprising ~~which comprises~~ a reinforcing element in one of said mating concrete structures having an end projecting beyond ~~a~~ the side edge of said one mating concrete structure with an enlarged head thereon to form a male connector, and a female socket fixture connected to a reinforcing element in said other concrete structure and positioned along ~~a~~ the side edge of said other concrete structure for receiving said male connector through ~~an open~~ a top of said female socket fixture which is open to said upper surface.

18. (Currently Amended) The male and female connector system of claim 17, wherein said female socket fixture includes an ~~open~~ enlarged chamber open to said upper surface for receiving said male

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connector enlarged head as lowered therein in a generally vertical direction.

19. (Original) The male and female connector system of claim 18, wherein said reinforcing element projecting end is threaded and said enlarged head thereon is a threaded nut threadedly received on said projecting end.

20. (Currently Amended) The male and female connector system of claim 18, wherein said open top of said female socket fixture is in the general shape of a keyhole with an ~~open~~ elongated first slot extending from said other concrete structure side edge to said open enlarged chamber, said first slot being open to said upper surface, and said chamber being open to said other concrete structure side edge via said slot, a width of said first slot being less than a width of said enlarged head.

Claims 21-25 (Canceled).

26. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 17 wherein said female socket fixture also has a generally keyhole shaped opening with a second slot along the side edge of said other

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concrete structure, said second slot opening into a bottom channel for receiving said projecting end when the enlarged head of said male connector is received in said female socket fixture enlarged chamber.

27. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 17 wherein said reinforcing elements are steel reinforcing rods.

28. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 20 wherein said keyhole shape is defined by the first slot having a generally rectangular top open to said upper surface and said enlarged chamber being generally cylindrical with a generally circular top open to said upper surface.

29. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 20 wherein said keyhole shape is defined by the first slot having a generally rectangular top open to said upper surface and said enlarged chamber having a generally rectangular top open to said upper surface.

30. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 29 wherein said generally rectangular top of said first slot has a

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length extending generally parallel with said male connector projecting end and said generally rectangular top of said enlarged chamber has a length oriented to be substantially perpendicular to said first slot length.

31. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 26 wherein said keyhole shape is defined by the first slot having a generally rectangular top open to said upper surface and said enlarged chamber being generally cylindrical with a generally circular top open to said upper surface, said bottom channel being generally cylindrical and extending generally perpendicularly to said generally cylindrical enlarged chamber and having a generally circular end open to said side edge, and said second slot having a generally rectangular side open to said side edge.

32. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 31 wherein a width of said bottom channel is greater than a width of said first and second slots.

33. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 26 wherein said keyhole shape is defined by the first slot having a generally rectangular top open to said upper surface and said

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enlarged chamber having a generally rectangular top open to said upper surface, said bottom channel being generally rectangular and extending generally perpendicularly to said enlarged chamber and having a generally rectangular end open to said side edge, and said second slot having a generally rectangular side open to said side edge.

34. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 33 wherein a width of said bottom channel is greater than a width of said first and second slots.

35. (New) A male and female connector system for interconnecting reinforcing elements embedded in first and second mating concrete structures, each of said first and second concrete structures having a generally planar upper surface and a side edge substantially perpendicular to said upper surface, said connector system comprising:

a reinforcing element embedded in the first concrete structure and having an end projecting beyond the side edge thereof with an enlarged head to form a male connector;

a reinforcing element embedded in the second concrete structure and connected to a female socket fixture positioned along

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the side edge of said second concrete structure, said female socket fixture having a top which is open to said upper surface of said second concrete structure for receiving said male connector as lowered through said open top in a generally vertical direction and having an enlarged chamber open to said upper surface for receiving said male connector enlarged head.

36. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 35, wherein said reinforcing element projecting end is threaded and said enlarged head thereon is a threaded nut threadedly received on said projecting end.

37. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 35, wherein said open top of said female socket fixture is in the general shape of a keyhole with an elongated first slot extending from said second concrete structure side edge to said open enlarged chamber, said first slot being open to said upper surface, and said chamber being open to said second concrete structure side edge via said first slot.

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38. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 37, wherein a width of said first slot is less than a width of said enlarged head.

39. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 37 wherein said female socket fixture also has a generally keyhole shaped opening with a second slot along said side edge of said second concrete structure, said second slot opening into a bottom channel for receiving said projecting end when the enlarged head of said male connector is received in said female socket fixture enlarged chamber.

40. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 39 wherein a width of said elongated head is greater than a width of said first and second slots.

41. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 39 wherein said keyhole shape is defined by the first slot having a generally rectangular top open to said upper surface and said enlarged chamber being generally cylindrical with a generally circular top open to said upper surface, said bottom channel being generally cylindrical and extending generally perpendicularly to

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said generally cylindrical enlarged chamber and having a generally circular end open to said side edge, and said second slot having a generally rectangular side open to said side edge.

42. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 41 wherein a width of said elongated head is greater than a width of said first and second slots.

43. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 42 wherein a width of said bottom channel is greater than a width of said first and second slots.

44. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 39 wherein said keyhole shape is defined by the first slot having a generally rectangular top open to said upper surface and said enlarged chamber having a generally rectangular top open to said upper surface, said bottom channel being generally rectangular and extending generally perpendicularly to said enlarged chamber and having a generally rectangular end open to said side edge, and said second slot having a generally rectangular side open to said side edge.

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45. (New) The male and female connector system of claim 44 wherein a width of said bottom channel is greater than a width of said first and second slots.